

REPORT  
OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF TWENTY  
CONCERNING PLANS FOR THE  
Interchurch World Movement  
OF  
North America



JANUARY  
1919

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF TWENTY

On December 17, 1918, one hundred and thirty-five representatives of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards and allied agencies met in conference in New York City at the call of the Foreign Board of the Presbyterian Church in the United States to consider the advisability and feasibility of a united campaign. The entire day was spent in the consideration of this question and it was unanimously agreed that the time was ripe for such a campaign.

A committee of twenty was appointed to outline a plan to be submitted to the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, the Home Missions Council, the Council of Church Boards of Education, the Sunday School Council, the Federation of Women's Boards of Foreign Missions and the Council of Women for Home Missions.

This Committee presents the following report to these agencies for approval and favorable recommendation to their constituent bodies: That there be organized

### THE INTERCHURCH WORLD MOVEMENT OF NORTH AMERICA

#### I. Purpose

To present a unified program of Christian service and to unite the Protestant churches of North America in the performance of their common task, thus making available the values of spiritual power which come from unity and coordinated Christian effort and meeting the unique opportunities of the new era.

#### II. Interests Included

While primarily a Home and Foreign Missionary Movement, the movement is to be broad enough to cover all those interests in the United States and Canada outside of the local church budget which are naturally related to the missionary enterprise through national agencies—denominational or interdenominational.

#### III. Methods

##### 1. Organization

##### (1) National

- a. General Committee of approximately one hundred.
- b. Executive Committee not to exceed fifteen.
- c. Canadian Council.

(The questions involved in the movement that are peculiar to the Dominion of Canada, should be referred to the Canadian Council.)

(2) State and Local

The organization throughout the country in each state and local community of all the Christian forces into some form of inter-church committee or federation.

2. Survey

A thorough united survey of the home and foreign fields of the world for the purpose of securing accurate and complete data as to what ought to be done by the combined churches to meet the needs of the hour, and of at least the next five years.

3. Education and Publicity

A thoroughgoing educational and publicity campaign to carry the facts of the survey to the entire Protestant church constituency in America and to every mission station throughout the world where the churches of North America are at work.

4. Field Campaign

A field campaign for the purpose of arousing the church to a realization of the urgency of united effort in meeting the needs of the community, the nation and the world, and of inspiring and organizing the Christian forces to undertake an adequate world program. This field campaign to include a series of regional conferences to be begun at the earliest possible moment, followed by conventions and training conferences throughout the country, to acquaint the churches with the message, plans and methods of the Interchurch World Movement of North America, to appeal for the resources of spiritual power, life and money called for by the survey and to organize all the forces for the carrying out of their full part of the program.

5. United Budget and Treasury

A united budget which shall constitute the financial objective and which shall be presented to the constituency of the cooperating agencies together with the educational and spiritual objectives of the movement. It is clearly understood that the united movement shall not displace or interfere with the autonomy and responsibility of administration of the cooperating agencies, and it is urged that all funds should be sent as far as possible directly to the treasurers of such agencies from their natural constituencies, but in view of the necessity of provision for receiving and distributing any funds that might be contributed to it without being sent

through denominational treasurers a central treasury be established to which funds given for the united budget, but contributed through ordinary church channels, may be reported by the cooperating agencies, and through which donors who so elect may contribute directly to the united budget. The functions of this central treasury shall not be administrative but to assemble and report the financial facts connected with the campaign, disburse funds for the common expenses of the campaign, and serve as a clearing house between the cooperating agencies in order to insure to each its pro rata share of the funds secured, as agreed on in advance by its percentage in the united budget.

#### 6. Financial Drive

A united financial campaign in the spring of 1920, or whenever, in the judgment of the leaders of the movement the churches are sufficiently prepared, to secure the funds shown by the survey to be needed to carry through the world program on an efficiency basis.

#### 7. Conservation and Extension

A conservation and extension program to be worked out as the movement progresses to insure the sustained cooperation of all the forces involved.

#### 8. Expenses of the Movement

The movement to be financed out of funds secured and not by direct assessment upon the participating bodies.

### IV. Immediate Steps

If and when the foregoing proposals shall have been recommended for submission by the Foreign Missions Conference and Home Missions Council to their participating bodies, the Committee of Twenty shall proceed to complete the organization by choosing members of the general committee who shall act with full authority to carry out the foregoing proposals.

S. EARL TAYLOR, *Chairman*

WILLIAM B. MILLAR, *Secretary*

MRS. FRED S. BENNETT  
 JAMES E. CLARKE  
 MISS MABEL CRATTY  
 D. D. FORSYTH  
 WILLIAM H. FOULKES  
 PRINCIPAL ALFRED GANDIER  
 (R. P. Mackay, Alternate)  
 FRED P. HAGGARD  
 F. H. KNUBEL  
 BISHOP WILLIAM LAWRENCE  
 (Bishop A. S. Lloyd, Alternate)

JOHN R. MOTT  
 CORNELIUS H. PATTON  
 MRS. HENRY W. PEABODY  
 FRED B. SMITH  
 ROBERT E. SPEER  
 JAMES M. SPEERS  
 JAMES I. VANCE  
 (Charles H. Pratt, Alternate)  
 CHARLES R. WATSON  
 CHARLES L. WHITE  
 J. CAMPBELL WHITE

DEC. 1920

629  
SECRETARIES

From--- The New York Times---

dated December 14th, 1920.

RE: DISSOLUTION OF INTERCHURCH WORLD MOVEMENT.

## PROTESTANT BODIES HOLD MEETING HERE

Decide Their Existing Agencies  
Are Sufficient for Co-oper-  
ative Church Work.

### URGE CONSULTATION BOARD

Think Interchurch Movement Should  
End Activities and Turn Over  
Survey Material.

A meeting of all the leading national organizations of American Protestantism was held yesterday, continuing in session all day, in the auditorium of the Young Women's Christian Association, at 400 Lexington Avenue. Seventy men and women were present. The meeting was held at the request of the late Interchurch World Movement a few weeks ago, made to the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Robert E. Spicer, new President of the Federal Council, and Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, issued the following statement, in part:

"The conference adopted unanimously the following statement:

"It is the sense of this conference that the churches possess in the existing agencies sufficient organizations for the needs of their co-operative work at present if these agencies are adequately developed and correlated.

"That they should appoint also a committee on consultation, made up for the present of three representatives from each of the bodies represented in the conference, which should meet periodically to consider matters of common interest."

"The Committee on Reorganization of the Interchurch World Movement shared in the conference, and in response to its desire for counsel it was voted that it was the sense of the conference that the Interchurch World Movement might wisely adjust and conclude its activities, and that when it is free to do so it might well transfer the survey material which it may have to dispose of to the various co-operative agencies of the churches dealing with missionary and educational work."

The bodies represented at the conference were the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, the Home Missions Council, the Foreign Missions' Conference of North America, the Council of Women for Home Missions, the Federation of Women's Boards of Foreign Missions, the Sunday School Council of Evangelical Denominations, the Council of Church Boards of Education; also the committee of which Bishop Thomas Nicholson of Chicago is Chairman, which was appointed to deal with the affairs of the Interchurch World Movement.